19th September 1947]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" This may not be possible always."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I am interested in this because there is a feeling that the Secretariat is growing rather rapidly sometimes and people want to know how this is happening."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" You can see this from the Budget."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" There is only a general discussion and we have no power to do anything."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Then, what is it that you want? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I would request the Hon. Minister to have the answers circulated to us and if necessary we may put separate questions."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" These proceedings are all printed as official publications and circulated to the members by the Legislature Secretariat. I have no objection to have the answers roneoed and distributed."

Producers-cum-consumers societies in Malabar.

* 27 *Q*.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the producers-*cum*-consumers societies in Malabar have been entrusted with the work of distribution of foodgrains and other controlled articles;

(*b*) whether the work of distribution was before the advent of these new co-operatives done in many places by the co-operative stores;

(*c*) whether in Palghat the distribution was entrusted to co-operative stores which also ran ration depots;

(*d*) whether the Government ordered that the ration depots of stores should be handed over to the producers-*cum*-consumers societies;

(*e*) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies suggested the retention of distribution and ration depots in the hands of the co-operative stores; and

(*f*) whether the Government propose to restore the distribution work to the co-operative stores?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The producers-*cum*-consumers societies in Malabar have been entrusted with the procurement of local paddy and the wholesale and retail distribution of local paddy and imported foodgrains. They are also entrusted with the retail distribution of sugar and kerosene oil through the ration shops run by them.

" (*b*) Before the advent of producers-*cum*-consumers societies the retail distribution was being done mainly by private authorized dealers and a few shops were run by co-operative stores or credit societies. Out of 2,970 ration shops which

existed before the advent of the producers-*cum*-consumers societies only about 129 shops were being run by old co-operative stores or credit societies. The wholesale distribution was being done by private authorized wholesalers and by the Malabar Wholesale Co-operative Stores, Limited, Calicut.

"(*c*) The Palghat Co-operative Stores were running only 14 ration shops before the advent of the producers-*cum*-consumers societies.

"(*d*) The Government ordered the transfer of ration shops run by Palghat Co-operative Stores to the producers-*cum*-consumers Society, Palghat. All these 14 ration shops were taken over by the Palghat Producers-*cum*-Consumers Society.

"(*e*) In some individual cases the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Calicut, had suggested the retention of ration shops run by the old stores with them. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras, had also suggested to the Government that the old societies should be allowed to handle foodgrains and other controlled articles sufficient to serve at least their members if they cannot be permitted to retain all the ration shops which they have been running all along to serve both members and non-members.

"(*f*) The Government have already allowed the old stores and credit societies to continue to run ration shops under them if they are democratically constituted, have a good business reputation and their retention will not adversely affect the producers-*cum*-consumers societies and these instructions are being followed in the matter of transfer of shops run by the old co-operative stores to the producers-*cum*-consumers societies;

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if the Palghat Stores satisfy these qualifications mentioned by the Hon. Minister and if orders have been issued to re-transfer the ration shops to the Palghat Stores? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I want notice for these details."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has received complaints about the working of these co-operative societies and that black-marketing is practised by them? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Such complaints are thousands in number and therefore it is not possible for me to remember them and state them categorically but I do remember to have received some complaints and they have been ordered to be investigated."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know if the procurement by the producer-*cum*-consumer co-operative societies in Malabar during this year is favourable as compared with the procurement of last year? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There may be a slight difference; but on the whole, it has been all right."

Evacuee orphans from Burma, Malaya, etc.

* 28 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the evacuee orphans from Burma, Malaya, etc., are in receipt of allowances for their maintenance, school, medical and other expenses;

(*b*) whether the grant of these allowances will be continued even after the scheme of assistance to evacuees is abandoned;

(*c*) whether the Government have formulated any definite proposals containing arrangements for the care and maintenance of the evacuee children including facilities for their education, etc.; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the Table of the House their proposals in this regard?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government of India.

" (*d*) In view of the answer to clauses (*b*) and (*c*), the question does not arise."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that while the question of permanent allowances for helping these evacuee children are under the consideration of the Government of India, under instructions from the Government of India, the temporary allowances have been stopped and this fact has been brought to the notice of Government? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Whatever may be the permanent arrangements, do not Government realize that the stoppage of these temporary allowances would put these children to great hardship."

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" The Government do realize that and they are taking the matter with the Government of India again."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know how many Malaya children are in receipt of these allowances and how much is being disbursed by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice of that question."